

[15 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

- (i) Constitution of a multi-disciplinary team to study and suggest programmes for preservation and development of Kuttanadu wetlands in Alappuzha district;
- (ii) Launch of programme for rejuvenation of plantation crops in a Mission mode;
- (iii) Revival of coconut cultivation in Kerala;
- (iv) Construction of new fishing harbours in the State; and
- (v) Provide institutional credit coverage to all eligible farmers of these two districts.

GM crops in Chhattisgarh

†2598. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Chhattisgarh have lodged protest with the Centre asking for the reasons due to which certain GM crops have been sowed in the State without concurrence of the State;

(b) if so the facts in this regard; and

(c) the names of the crops alongwith the names of the institutes under whose supervision the said crops have been produced in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Government of Chhattisgarh has not lodged any protest with the Central Government over the trials of certain Genetically Modified (GM) crops in the State. However the State Government on the basis of an enquiry has informed Department of Biotechnology (the administrative department for Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation) that some administrative and scientific lapses have been observed in the trial of Bt. Rice and Bt. Okra.

(c) The names of the crops and the institutions under whose supervision the trials were conducted are given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of the Crop	Name of the Institution under whose supervision the said trials have been conducted.
1.	Bt. Rice	M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Ltd (MAHYCO) Mumbai.
2.	Bt. Okra	M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Ltd (MAHYCO) Mumbai.

Boosting rural industries

2599. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the schemes to boost up rural industries; and
- (b) whether Government would agree to set up district based training centres for these industries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The names of the programmes/schemes to help establishment of new rural industries are as under:

- (i) Rural Employment Generation Programme;
- (ii) Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (with 50 per cent of units estimated to be in rural areas);
- (iii) Rural Industries Service Centre Scheme; and
- (iv) Mahila Coir Yojana.

Similarly the names of the programmes/schemes to improve the performance of the existing rural industries are as under:

- (i) Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) scheme for khadi and village industries;
- (ii) Development of Production Infrastructure Scheme for coir production-through supply of equipment and machinery at subsidised rates;
- (iii) Research and Development schemes for Coir Industry; and
- (iv) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI).